

Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of the claims pending in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for head mounting gear for hands free operation, comprising:

a head mounting means comprising a single, non-rigid encircling band adapted to completely encircle the head of a wearer at the wearer's forehead region, and a non-rigid top band adapted to go over the top of the head of the wearer and connected to said single, non-rigid encircling band;

a mounting bracket mounted to said non-rigid encircling band and to said top band, said mounting bracket having a pivot means;

a support bar having a proximal and distal end, said support bar being pivotally mounted at its proximal end to said pivot means of said mounting bracket;

said support bar being lockable by a detent mechanism in a position for use and a position for storage;

a quick release mounting mechanism mounted on the distal end of said support bar;

gear mounted to said quick release mounting mechanism being selected to be binoculars or a range finder; and

wherein said gear may be used without being held by hand.

2. (Previously Presented) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1 wherein said encircling band and said top band are made of neoprene.

3. (Previously Presented) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1 wherein said proximal end of said support bar is provided with a spring loaded releasable pin which mates with an opening in said mounting bracket to form said detent mechanism.

4. (Previously Presented) An apparatus in accordance with claim 3 wherein said pin in the proximal end of said support bar is released by a pin release means.

5. (Previously Presented) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1 wherein said quick release mounting mechanism is pivotally mounted on the distal end of said support bar.

6. (Previously Presented) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1 wherein said quick release mounting mechanism has a channel for receiving a pair of guide rails on a selected gear.

7. (Previously Presented) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1 wherein said support bar has two sections formed at approximately 90 degrees to each other.

8. (Previously Presented) An apparatus in accordance with claim 7 wherein said two sections of said support bar are provided with means for adjusting the length of each section.

9. (Previously Presented) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1 wherein said gear is selected to be a range finder and wherein said range finder is provided with a remote control.

10. (Previously Presented) An apparatus in accordance with claim 9 wherein said remote control for said range finder is provided with a clip for clipping said remote control to an article of clothing of the wearer.

11. (Previously Presented) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1 wherein said encircling band is provided with means for adjusting its length.

12. (Previously Presented) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1 wherein said top band is provided with means for adjusting its length.

13. (Previously Presented) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1 wherein said support bar is lockable by said detent mechanism in a second position for use, wherein the use position may be selected to accommodate the wearer.

14. (Previously Presented) An apparatus in accordance with claim 7 wherein said sections are adjustable in length by tubing slidable one within the other and being retained in position by a tightenable clutch.

15. (Previously Presented) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1 wherein said quick release mounting mechanism is provided with a spring clip which retains a pair of guide rails on the gear in a channel formed in said quick release mounting mechanism.

16. (Previously Presented) An apparatus in accordance with claim 6 wherein said channel is provided with a resilient pad at its distal end for securely retaining said pair of guide rails in position without movement.

17. (Previously Presented) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1 wherein said quick release mounting mechanism is adjustably pivotally mounted on the distal end of said support bar.

18. (Previously Presented) An apparatus in accordance with claim 1 wherein said mounting bracket includes a stop to prevent said support bar from pivoting beyond a predetermined point thereby preventing said gear from contacting the wearer.